



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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October 2, 2006

WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO: WV300-7-2

SUBJECT: LTP – Local Work Group Activities

Purpose: To Provide Guidance for FY 2007 Local Work Group Activities

Expiration Date: This bulletin expires September 30, 2007

ACTION REQUESTED BY: November 9, 2006

The following provides guidance for submitting advice and recommendations for implementing Farm Bill Programs in FY 2007.

In past years, Local Work Groups (LWG) provided valuable assistance in identifying resource issues to be addressed and funding levels necessary to address these resource issues in a timely manner. This year, we ask the LWG to address the following issues.

- Review Priority Resource Concerns which LWGs submitted for FY 2006, and submit changes to Herbert Andrick to use in updating the web site.
- Review the approved Practice/Cost List. Are the costs still accurate? Are incentive payments adequate to promote practice adoption? If costs need to be adjusted, provide written justification for increases or decreases.
 - The cost share rate for all practices is 50% except for Limited Resource Farmers who will receive 90%. Management practices will be a Flat Rate cost type at 100%.
 - Structural practices require average costs. Each practice in the cost list must have a cost greater than zero. Component units of a practice for cost calculation do not have to be the same units in which the practice is reported. For example, a Waste Storage Facility (313) is reported as “number”; however, the average cost may be set at a square foot or cubic foot price for dry storage and a cost per 1,000 gallons for liquid storage.



- Are there practices in the approved Practice/Cost List which do not address national or local priority resource concerns? Consider deleting practices that do not meet national/state resource concerns to focus program goals and simplify the process of calculating total project costs.
 - Are there practices in the Cost List which have been deleted from the WV FOTG? Are current practice codes used for all practices in the Cost List?
- The LWG should develop a set of local questions for use in the online ranking tool for each ranking pool the LWG develops. For example, if the LWG decides to rank grassland applications separately from animal waste applications, then a set of local questions must be developed for grassland issues and another set developed for animal waste issues.

The Lead Designated Conservationist (DC) documents the recommendations of the LWG and submits a copy to Herbert Andrick by **close of business November 9, 2006**. Please be sure to identify all recommended changes by highlighting and explaining those items on a copy of the material. Submit an electronic copy of the Resource Concerns, Local Ranking Questions and Practice Cost List to Herbert Andrick.

The State Conservationist will make decisions for FY2007 EQIP implementation based on recommendations of NRCS staff on behalf of the LWG and State Technical Committee.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Herbert Andrick, Assistant State Conservationist - Programs, at (304) 284-7560.

/s/

RONALD L. HILLIARD
State Conservationist

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